

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method for flavouring drinks, wherein consisting essentially of the steps of:

(a) loading solid, solvent-inert, particulate carrier materials selected from the group consisting of silicates, aluminium oxides and activated carbons having a specific surface area between 0.1 and 1.000 m²/g ~~are loaded with~~ flavouring agents by introducing said carrier materials into a liquid containing flavouring agents or by spraying said carrier material with a liquid containing flavouring agents, and

(b) adding the product of step a), optionally admixed with a raw material for drinks, ~~is added to a drink, optionally admixed with a raw material for drinks,~~ said drink being present at a temperature of at least 40 °C.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said carrier material has a specific surface area of 50 to 500 m²/g.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said carrier materials are selected from the group consisting of silica gels, kieselguhr, activated clays, calcined clays, γ -Al₂O₃ and aluminium oxide xerogels.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said carrier materials have a pore size between 0.3 and 5000 nm.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said carrier materials have a particle size of at least 10 μ m.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said flavouring agent is a readily volatile flavouring agent.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said readily volatile flavouring agent is of natural origin.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said flavouring agent is selected from the group consisting of essential oils, citrus oils, fruit essences and aroma extracts.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said drink is an aqueous infusion or an extraction drink.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, whereby said liquid containing flavouring agents is a process water from the flavour industry.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said liquid containing flavouring agents is a flavour concentrate.